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# Inside Information

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## INSIDE THIS "INSIDE"

Page

62nd Annual Agricultural Outlook Conference held in Washington, December 3-5..1  
Federal inspectors working seven days a week to protect American agriculture..1  
Farm Bill and growth hormone will highlight talks at Cornell "Dairy Days".....2  
College of the Virgin Islands still looking for a communications researcher...2  
An opening is available at Oklahoma State Agricultural Information Services...2

## ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK CONFERENCE

Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block opened the 62nd Annual Agricultural Outlook Conference, held in Washington, D.C., December 3-5.

In his opening speech, Block explained that the original purpose behind the conferences was to provide farmers with the latest information on seed varieties and crop development.

Over the years, the conference has evolved in scope to become a major vehicle for sharing information on a wide range of agricultural issues that affect the livelihood of American farmers, and influence the basic survival of millions of people throughout the world.

Other speakers at the Conference included U.S. Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter, Executive Assistant to the Secretary Randy M. Russell, Assistant Secretary Robert L. Thompson, Under Secretary Daniel G. Amstutz, and Don Paarlberg, Professor Emeritus at Purdue University.

Copies of speeches and press conference transcripts are available from the News Division, USDA/OI, Room 403-A, Washington, DC 20250, or send message to Dialcom mailbox AGR003. Telephone requests, call: (202) 447-4026.

## USDA INSPECTORS ON THE JOB

USDA's Office of Information News Division's Minority Media has a feature story in the works on Federal inspectors, making a career protecting America's agriculture. Their job is to inspect the luggage of incoming passengers for fresh meat, fruit, plants, or other prohibited foreign agricultural products that could threaten U.S. crops or livestock.

There are more than 1,000 officers in USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, working seven days a week at every U.S. international airport. They also inspect ships' cargoes, rail or truck freight, and mail from abroad.

These inspectors guard against the entry of potentially dangerous pests. In 1981, when the Mediterranean fruit fly infested parts of California, it cost taxpayers \$100 million to eradicate.

For more information on the feature story, contact Rufus Wells, News Division, USDA, Room 405-A, Washington, DC 20250. Telephone (202) 447-4026.

Photos will also be available from Photography Division, USDA, Room 4407-S, Washington, DC 20250. Telephone (202) 447-6633.

To find out which foreign food, plant, and animal products are prohibited or restricted, write for a free copy of TRAVELERS' TIPS. Send request to TRAVELERS' TIPS, USDA/APHIS, 700 Federal Building, Hyattsville, MD 20782.



## CORNELL DAIRY DAYS

Perspectives on the 1985 Farm Bill and the impact of the use of biosynthetic bovine growth hormone following its commercial application are among subjects to be discussed at the 1986 "Dairy Days" at Cornell University, January 14-15.

Sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension in cooperation with the Cornell Dairy Committee and the Department of Animal Science in the New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell, the conference is expected to attract more than 350 dairy farmers from throughout New York State.

Robert L. Thompson, Jr., assistant secretary of agriculture for economics in the U.S. Department of Agriculture, will be the keynote speaker. He is scheduled to discuss the Farm Bill during the opening session.

The two-day conference will feature sessions on dairy products and promotion, housing, health and environment, dairy management, dairy research update, and the evaluation of the "National Milk Promotion Program."

For information about registration, contact Dee Brothers, 272 Morrison Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853-4801, or call (607) 256-4478.

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COMMUNICATIONS RESEARCH SPECIALIST NEEDED

The College of the Virgin Islands is looking for a research specialist in communications. The position was advertised earlier but a suitable candidate was not found.

Qualifications include a Master's degree in journalism, communication, or a related field, and duties will include writing, editing, and publication of research reports for scientific audiences as well as the general public.

Send letter of application and resume to: Dr. D. S. Padda, Vice President for Research and Land-Grant Programs, Caribbean Research Institute, College of the Virgin Islands, Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00802.

Deadline for applications is May 31, 1986.

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OKLAHOMA NEEDS AN INFORMATION OFFICER

The Agricultural Information Services at Oklahoma State University needs an Agricultural Information Officer to work with State Extension specialists and field staff to provide news coverage for all phases of agriculture in Oklahoma.

A Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Communications or a related field and three year's writing experience for either a newspaper, magazine, or university information service is required.

Send resume and sample of work to: Charles N. Voyles, Head, Agricultural Information Services, 102 Public Information Building, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078.

Deadline for applications is December 20.

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INSIDE INFORMATION is published for distribution to public affairs and information staff members of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, its agencies, State Departments of Agriculture and Land Grant Universities. Any items, comments or inquiries should be sent to Denver Browning or Nancy Bevis, Office of Information, Room 536-A, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250 or send to AGR209 or AGR001 mailboxes on the ITT Dialcom system, or call: (202) 447-7454.

